

Seattle Permits

— part of a multi-departmental City of Seattle series on getting a permit

Permitting Portable Storage Units

Last Revised 01/27/2011

The City of Seattle welcomes you and hope it will be an easy transition. You probably have found out that portable storage units are very convenient to pack up and be placed right at your door.

The only problem is that some portable storage unit companies don't tell you that a Street Use permit is required for placement in the public right-of-way, i.e. curb space, driveways, and planting strips. These units come in all sizes ranging from 4'x 5' to 8'x 30'.

The portable storage unit must be placed adjacent to your residence or property. The portable storage unit must not exceed 8' in width due to travel lane width requirements. In addition, it must not block pedestrian flow or sidewalk use. If for some reason parking space(s) are not available and it must be placed across the street, documentation from the adjacent property owner is required to show that they have been notified of the location before the permit will be issued. In addition, a detailed site plan must be submitted to show where the storage unit will be placed and SDOT Street Use will review the permit application prior to issuance.

The permit fees for the portable storage unit include a \$146 permit issuance fee and an \$86 inspection deposit.

Use fees are calculated based on the amount of public ROW area occupied, the duration, the area impacts the public ROW and the type of street impacted. Use fees escalate in accordance with the fee schedule unless the ROW is completely unoccupied for 10 consecutive calendar days or more during the project. Refer to CAM 2115 for more information.

As the permittee, it is advisable that you ensure that your permit is valid for the intended time periods and that the portable storage units are delivered and set up per the requirements discussed in this CAM. Failure to do so will result in additional permit inspection charges, penalty fees, or revocation of the Street Use Permit.

A container on a trailer and detached from the truck or tractor is not permitted in the public right-of-way. The truck or tractor must stay attached at all times and you must contact SDOT Traffic Division to identify additional requirements which may include submitting an application for Temporary No Parking signs as described below.

You will find that in some neighborhoods parking is at a premium. You may be required to submit an application for Temporary No Parking signs and easels to restrict on-street parking to reserve parking space to accommodate the portable storage unit. SDOT does not provide these signs. They may be rented or purchased from local companies. Please search the Internet for "barricades Seattle" or look in the telephone yellow pages under the heading "Barricades". You may find additional information at <http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/parking/tempnoparking.htm>.

The signs should be placed and marked and the online Notification of Temporary No Parking Zone should be filled out and submitted 72 hours prior to the beginning of the desired restriction and enforcement. This gives those who may have previously been legally parked (every on-street parking space in Seattle is subject to a 72-hour parking limit, even if there are no other posted restriction) in the zone ample opportunity to move their vehicles prior to the start date for the zone.

www.seattle.gov/transportation



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Once a Temporary No Parking Zone has been established at parking spaces without a meter or pay station, a vehicle must have a "Restricted Area Truck Permit" to park in the Temporary No Parking Zone. The application is available by accessing the following link at <http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/parking/tempnoparking.htm>.

Any parking restrictions desired in pay to park areas (meters or pay station controlled) require contact with SDOT's Traffic Permits Counter at (206) 684-5086. Generally, the SDOT Parking Shop will restrict the parking in these areas, rather than the Permittee. Temporary No Parking signs may be used if the restrictions occur outside the paid parking hours; however, the spaces must still be reserved through the Traffic Permits Counter, and the Temporary No Parking zone online verification procedure must still be followed.

If you need additional information about placing a portable storage unit in the public right-of-way, you may contact SDOT Street Use at (206) 684-5253 or via email at SDOTPermits@seattle.gov.